

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 YAOUND 05633 211145Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----114822 211152Z /14

P R 211125Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4078
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

S E C R E T YAOUNDE 5633

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINR, MOPS, ET, UR, EG, CM, US
SUBJ: US ARMS SUPPLY POLICY TOWARD SOMALIA AND ETHIOPIA

REF: (A) STATE 303171, (B) YAOUNDE 5511, (C) STATE 297314

1. PER REFTEL A, EMBASSY APPRECIATES THAT THERE MAY BE SOME CONFUSION IN USE OF WORD "RESTRAINT" WITH RESPECT TO OUR FURNISHING DEFENSIVE WEAPONS TO SOMALIA. HOWEVER, REFTEL B ONLY REPORTED SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS. CONVERSATION WITH FOREIGN AFFAIRS SECRETARY GENERAL OWONO ON THIS POINT LEFT NO ROOM FOR MISINTERPRETATION. HE WAS INFORMED THAT AT REQUEST OF SOMALI GOVERNMENT USG HAD AGREED TO FURNISH DEFENSIVE WEAPONS. HOWEVER, WHEN FIGHTING

FLARED UP IN OGADEN, WE INFORMED SOMALI GOV'T THAT USG COULD NOT FURNISH EVEN DEFENSIVE MILITARY EQUIPMENT AT THIS TIME. FROM CONTEXT OF CONVERSATION, THERE SHOULD BE NO DOUBT IN OWONO'S MIND THAT WE HAVE NOT NOR ARE WE FURNISHING ANY WEAPONS TO SOMALIA. HIS COMMENT ON "RESTRAINT" IS IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE SOVIET'S MASSIVE RESUPPLY EFFORT AND USG SHOWING "RESTRAINT" IN NOT RISING TO OCCASION IN FACE OF APPARENT SOVIET PROVOCATION. GURC DOES NOT WANT SUPER-POWER INVOLVEMENT IN THE
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HORN AND WISHES EFFORTS AT NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT BE GIVEN A CHANCE TO SUCCEED. IN THIS CONNECTION POINTS RAISED
PARA 5 REFTEL C. MADE.

2. CONVERSATION WITH SAMUEL EBOUA, PRESIDENCY SECRETARY GENERAL WAS BETWEEN EBOUA AND AF/C DIRECTOR JUNIOR. JUNIOR ALSO PRESENT DURING OWONO DISCUSSION. IF DEPARTMENT WSHES CLARIFICATION

OF THAT CONVERSATION OR FURTHER DETAILS ON OWONO CONVERSATION,
SUGGEST THAT ACTION OFFICER CONTACT JUNIOR, WHO HAS RETURNED TO
DEPARTMENT.
SMYTHE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Sent Date: 21-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
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